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PEKELESKY, MARIA

AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT		2. DATE SUBMITTED													
List of Alleged CIS Agents in Vienna, Austria		14 April 1953													
3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.		4. ACTION													
L/28342 DWH:vtd HO-67635 00438		<table border="1"> <tr> <td>INFO:</td> <td>CIB</td> <td>IN</td> <td>OP</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB</td> <td>CIB</td> <td>IN</td> <td>OP</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IRB</td> <td colspan="3">RECORDS</td> </tr> </table>		INFO:	CIB	IN	OP	IB	CIB	IN	OP	IRB	RECORDS		
INFO:	CIB	IN	OP												
IB	CIB	IN	OP												
IRB	RECORDS														

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

As a result of a Civil Partnership Group/Austria coverage request by this Sub-Detachment concerning Maria and Vladimir Pekelsky (Ref AR L/27144, dated 30 December 1952, and Ref AR HO 00130 dated 19 January 1953), CGO/Austrian mail intercept L/P28809, dated 6 March 1953, contained a letter enclosure written by (fnu) Wiedemann to (fnu) Pekelsky, editor of "Bohemia". The envelope was addressed to Redaktion, "Bohemia", 9/11 Dachauerstrasse, Munich, Germany, and the sender was listed as H. A. Kirchner, 62 Leonharitstrasse, Graz, Land Styria, Austria. The enclosure contained the following list of names, and comments regarding each, of alleged CIS agents currently operating in Vienna, Austria:

a. Marie Hradeska, 7 Schleifgasse, Vienna XXI, Czech, owner of a shoe repair shop. Allegedly supports the Communist Party with financial aid and by spreading Communist propaganda.

b. Mr. and (Mrs) V. Los, 21 Hauptstrasse, Vienna XXI, both Czechs, owners of a tailor shop. Both are allegedly in direct contact with the Soviet Army and with the GPU (State Political Administration).

c. Mr. and (Mrs) Eduard Kabelka, 25/9/II Freitaggasse, Vienna XXI, described as dangerous Czech agents. Both persons allegedly attended the KP School (Communist Party School) in Prague, CSR, in 1952. Both are Communists.

d. Marie Truba, 8/5 Freitaggasse, Vienna XXI, Czech agent and informer for Kabelka. Communist.

e. J. Juricek, 25/II Freitaggasse, Vienna XXI, Czech, relative of Kabelka, agent for Prague, Communist.

f. Rudolf Galia, 25 Schweigergasse, Vienna XII, native of Ostrau, CSR, is non-Communist but is a collaborator. He is allegedly responsible for the forcible return of many refugees to CSR.

g. Leopold Hudecek, 32/III Freitaggasse, Vienna XXI, Czech, Socialist, is the same type of man as Galia.

h. J. Satajra, 20/I Schleifgasse, Vienna XXI, Czech, the same as Galia.

Agent's Notes: A check of the name files of the 430th CIC Sub-Detachment "B" was made concerning the personalities mentioned in the above Agent's Report. No record was found of the persons listed, with the following exception:

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT	6. SIGNATURE
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WD 341

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2001 2006

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)
(2)(A) Privacy ☐
(2)(B) Methods/Sources ☒
(2)(G) Foreign Relations ☐

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

COORDINATED WITH US Army CIC

Declassified and Approved for Release
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Date: 2001

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Security Information

AGENT REPORT

List of Alleged CIS Agents (CIS)
in Vienna, Austria

Confidential
14 April 1953

L/28342 DWM:vfd

MOIC S-8776, dated 1 November 1950, Subject: "Svoboda, Milos", lists Svoboda, in the company with one Karl Kramar, and Vladimir Pekelsky, as escaping from CSR to Vienna, Austria, and then to Bad Reichenhall, Germany, where they contacted the CIC office.

Agent's Report L/27144, dated 30 December 1952, Subject: "Pekelsky, Maria, nee Blatovitschkova, and Pekelsky, Vladimir, Alleged American Intelligence Agents", lists Pekelsky and wife as operating in the Linz-Wels area out of Munich, Germany, for the OSI. When interviewed by members of the Wels Field Office, 430th CIC Sub-Detachment "B", both persons identified themselves by the use of various valid code numbers. Vladimir is listed as being connected with the "Bohemia", 9/11 Dachauerstrasse, Munich, Germany.

DON W. MINIMUM, 430th CIC Det.,
Sub-Detachment "B" (Linz)

W. W. M. minimum

Security Information

Confidential

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1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

WEIDEMANN, (fna)
CIS; Suspected CIS Activities
Vienna

SECURITY INFORMATION

3. DATE SUBMITTED

10 June 1963

22

1. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.

HO-02589
V-34892

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

ACTION		LN	OPNS
IB	INFO	IB	CIS LN
IB	CIS	LN	OPNS
IB	RECORDS		

On 23 March 1963, CGG Intercept L/P 28809, dated 6 March 1963, disclosed the following information on SUBJECT and other persons alleged to be CIS agents and/or Communist collaborators in Vienna:

From: Kirchner, M. A.
62 Leonhardstrasse
Graz, Steiermark, Austria

To: Redaktion
"Bohemia"
9/II Dachsauerstrasse
Munich, Germany

Dear Mr. Pekelsky,

Your letter with the identity card arrived. I have passed on the identity card. Mr. Havlicek and Mr. WEIDEMANN request you to thank the translator. I have also received the "Bohemia" and arranged everything so far. Glad to hear that someone is coming to Lins, so that we can start the action. Eng. Bodinger told me that he has sent the answer to Salzburg. He hasn't a suitable photograph at the moment. The last pack of newspapers reached us via Salzburg. I'll send you other material this week. Here is a letter from Mr. WEIDEMANN in supplement to his previous letter:

Vienna, 23 February 1963

To Editor Pekelsky:

I am sending you addresses of Communist collaborators responsible for handing over Vienna Czechs to Communist Czechoslovakia.

Maria Hradecka, Vienna XXI, Schleifgasse 7, Czech, shoe repair shop, supports Communists with money and propaganda.

Mr. and Mrs. V. Los, Vienna XXI, Hauptstrasse 21, Czechs, tailor shop, have direct connections with Soviet Army and GPU.

Mr. and Mrs. Eduard Kabelka, Vienna XII, Freitagasse 25/9/II, Czechs, dangerous Czech agents, both were for re-training at the KP school at Prague in 1952, Communists.

Maria Truba, Vienna XXI, Freitagasse 8/5, Czech, agent and informer for Kabelka, J. Vuricek, Vienna XII, Freitagasse 25/II, relative of Kabelka, agent for Prague, Communist.

Rudolf Galia, Vienna XXI, Schwaigergasse 26, native of Ostau, non-Communist, but collaborator, is responsible for many emigrant victims to Czechoslovakia.

J. Satajra, Vienna XII, Schleifgasse 20/I, Czech, the same as Galia.

Leop. Hudecek, Vienna XII, Freitagasse 32/III, Vienna Czech, Socialist, same as Galia.

Other addresses next time.

(2-3)

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

JOSEPH J. LIPKO, S/A CIS
430th CIC Sub-Det "C" (Vienna)

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

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EXEMPTIONS
(2)(A) Privacy
(2)(B) Methods/Sources
(2)(G) Foreign Relations

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SECURITY INFORMATION

WEIDEMANN, (fnu)
GIS, Suspected GIS Activities
Vienna

10 June 1953
HO-C2589
V-34392

On 23 March 1953, an investigation was initiated on SUBJECT to determine his source of information, associates and activities, as reflected in CGG Intercept L/P 23809, dated 6 March 1953. To date the following information has been obtained:

On 19 March 1953, Informant 1801 submitted the following information to this Office:

Several days ago the wife of the exiled Czech politician, Dr. Vladimir Pekelsky, (Federalist), came to Vienna from Munich, Germany. Mrs. Pekelsky held meetings with Dr. Klimovis and Engineer Bodinger, the editor of the Volksdeutsche Zeitung (ethnic German newspaper). The latter arranged a meeting between Source and Mrs. Pekelsky.

Mrs. Pekelsky came to Vienna on behalf of her husband, with whom she works. Dr. Pekelsky's permanent residence is in Munich, and he is concerned with the unification of large groups of Czechs in exile. Dr. Pekelsky was successful in bringing about a close relationship with the General Prehala group. He is in constant contact with (fnu) Durehansky, a Czech politician who lives in Munich. Dr. Pekelsky did not discuss his political plans with his wife; however, she gave assurance that her husband would come to Vienna for a few days next week and it is likely that he would talk with Source and give him further details.

Mrs. Pekelsky's mission was to find people who have connections both in the CSR and in Munich. Her husband is in need of all types of information from the CSR, which must be current. It is preferred that this be an organ of some sort, which can verify information from the CSR, because it is expected to extend across the border into the CSR. Above all, it is necessary for Dr. Pekelsky to have a very trustworthy person in Vienna. The news would be compiled by this person and reliably transmitted to Dr. Pekelsky. Mrs. Pekelsky said that her husband has had connections with Dr. Klimovis for a long time, but has, nevertheless, no real trust in him. Klimovis is known to be a swindler of intelligence information, one who invents and fabricates information and sells it for as much as he possibly can. Mrs. Pekelsky doubts, however, that Dr. Klimovis works for an Eastern intelligence service. Her direct question to Source was, could she possibly find someone in Vienna who would be suitable for the job. Source answered that those members of the circle of exiled Czechs in Vienna, who are engaged in the dissemination of intelligence information, are suspected of working for both sides. A complete trust in a person is very difficult, if not impossible. Emigrants, mostly young people who work as border crossers, are mainly in the service of one of the Western powers. If they are working for themselves, they engage in guiding refugees across the border, since this is more profitable than intelligence activity and is possibly less dangerous. For these reasons, it would be difficult

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WEIDEMANN (fnu)
CIS; Suspected CIS Activities
Vienna

10 June 1953
HO-02889
V-34892

for Dr. Pekelsky to find a suitable person in Vienna, if he wants to be completely safe.

Mrs. Pekelsky complained that the people who are used by CIC as border crossers and couriers are poorly controlled and obtain information which could be damaging if it were betrayed. Mrs. Pekelsky gave one example: Karel Cvrk, who lived in Innsbruck, Austria, about two years ago, and who now calls himself Steinhardt. He is working for CIC, Linz, as an interrogator and is an agent for the CSR state police (StB). Karel Cvrk, alias Steinhardt, allegedly warned a Professor (fnu) Cerny, in Innsbruck, of his impending arrest, so that Cerny was able to escape. (Cerny was a Czech agent). Cvrk also brought the written material which Cerny left behind in Innsbruck to Linz, crossed the bridge into Urfaehr and gave the material to an Eastern intelligence agency. Later Cvrk emigrated to Australia, but returned in a few months to Austria and, as previously mentioned, works for CIC, Linz. (B-3)

On 21 April 1953, Informant 1801 submitted the following information to this Office:

The prominent Czech leader of immigrants (federalists), Vladimir Pekelsky, was in Vienna during the beginning of the week of 12 April 1953, accompanied by his wife. On 14 April 1953, he went to Innsbruck, Austria, and returned to Vienna on 19 April. His wife remained in Vienna during his short absence. The couple lived, unregistered, at Vienna VIII (American), Josefstadtstrasse 73/4, with (fnu) Rodinger, who is known as a leader of ethnic Germans in Vienna. Pekelsky's permanent address is Reulandstrasse 25, Munich 25, Germany, and his telephone number is 1 26 88. He is the editor of the Czech immigrant newspaper, "Bohemia". The couple crossed the demarcation line with the aid of identity cards made out to Austrian citizens, which they allegedly procured in Linz, Austria. The identity card bears the round seal of the Linz police headquarters, number 77. The identification card for Mrs. Pekelsky was made out to a Margareta Baier and contained a picture of Mrs. Pekelsky. It is not known in what name the card for Mr. Pekelsky was made out. Both crossed the demarcation line without difficulty. They left Vienna in the direction of Munich on 20 April 1953. The reason for Pekelsky's visit to Vienna was to contact Czech immigrants and to make preparations for a conference which is to take place in Munich in June 1953. It was for this purpose that Pekelsky contacted Dr. Klimovis, who is to be the Austrian delegate at this conference. Pekelsky promised Source a condensation of the results of the conference. In two weeks he is to furnish a work sheet indicating the present situation of many Czech and Slovakian groups in exile in Europe, with special consideration given to Austria and West Germany. Pekelsky was especially interested in the

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10 June 1953
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Czech minority group in Vienna, and asked if this minority would aid the immigrants, especially the federalists. After Source gave Pekelsky an explanation of the Czech school situation in Vienna, and also the dependence of the "Komensky" school association upon the money received from the CSR to maintain its school work, Pekelsky hinted in his reply that support for the Czech schools in Vienna could be obtained from the Americans. Thereby, the heavy burden would be taken off the non-Communist teaching staff. Pekelsky especially bemoaned the fact that the connections which now remain with the CSR have almost been completely dissolved because of the difficulty in crossing the border. Therefore, less and less information from the CSR will be received. Often it has been discovered that information which is allegedly first class consists, in reality, of swindled reports. The fabrication of reports has reached such proportions in Munich that people are making a business of it. Pekelsky's exponents in Vienna are Dr. Klimovic and his assistants, Havlicek and Mrs. Kubik. Dr. Klimovic's work consists mainly of the distribution of the newspaper "Bohemia". Pekelsky said Klimovic "lost face" through the passing of false reports, so that now he cannot be fully trusted. Pekelsky does not believe that Klimovic is a Czech agent because he exposed himself too much in his earlier activities. Pekelsky believes that Klimovic's primary interest is in making money. The allegedly kidnapped George Zahradnický alias Schleiss, is known to Pekelsky as a Czech agent. Pekelsky impresses one as being a confused political theorist who is hardly influential enough to control a great number of people. His wife seems to be more energetic. Source is maintaining further connections with Pekelsky. (B-3)

On 22 April 1953, Informant 1801 submitted the following information to this Office:

During February and March 1953, the following article, an interview with Vladimir Pekelsky, the chairman of the Czech Democratic Federalists, appeared in the "Bohemia", a Czech Democratic Federalist's newspaper in Munich.

Questions: How do you judge February 1948?

Answer: The 25th of February was in no case a day of heroic defense of the so-called political representation, in the view of Communist aggression, but of cowardly resignation before the evil. An exception is the students. All political and state functionaries are at fault for February 1948, disregarding their party membership and orientation. One reason why these people fade out of public life is that under their leadership we could still detect a few "state acts" similar to that of February 1948.

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WEIDEMANN (fau)
CIS; Suspected CIS Activities
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Question: How do you regard the collaboration between those democratic groups which are outside of the RSC (initials of the Czech government in exile in the USA, under Zdenek Lenkl)?

Answer: The unification of all positive power for the purpose of a new political representation in exile is highly necessary. At least for reasons of the renaissance of the name of the Czechs in this world. I have the impression that changes in the leadership, be it in the state or emigration, are healthy if they are constructive. This will be especially applicable where the political functionaries are at the helm for quite some time -- comfortable, intellectually exhausted, sterile, and very often corrupt. The necessity of such a change was shown by the American people, too, when they elected the opposition party candidate. The supposition for the collaboration by those groups, which are not in the RSC, is good will and pure partnership. On these grounds, a new representation can be created, with new people who are not at fault in today's tragedy in the CSR, and who have the ability to dominate all sectors of the political life in the emigration. Thereby, a basis for free development of our people after the defeat of Communism would be created.

Question: Is the Federalism in the Czech people acute?

Answer: I believe that our people do support the movement for a European federation. I am convinced that a Danube or a Middle European Federation would be a basis for the further development of a European Federation. National, racial, religious, and social tolerance is a proposition for it. Today one can already note a departure from the exaggerated nationalism, which I regard as a certain inferior complex. It is this departure which brings people close together; people who are to live as equal partners in the federation. The necessity of solving the social problems also forces the creation of a federation, because it is much easier for a large economic body to offer a higher standard of living, than a small state.

Question: How do you envision your relationship to the Slovaks?

Answer: It is my greatest wish that the relations with the Slovaks be the best, and that the cooperation in exile be very close and intimate. Unfortunately, one cannot say that the understanding today, between the Czechs and Slovaks, either in exile or according to reports received

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WEIDEMANN (fmu)
CIS; Suspected CIS Activities
Vienna

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HO-02589
V-54892

from home, is very good. Many Czechs still do not understand that the Slovaks are people like us, and that they have the right to decide their future political and national life. This is the holy right of everyone, and we, as democrats and humanists, cannot deprive them of this right. However, we can avoid future unfriendly relations which may exist between the countries of the Czechs and Slovaks. It is better to have a good neighbor than a bad tenant. It is also justly so that the Slovaks in the federation have as many rights as we, to be an independent unit.

Question: How about the cooperation with the Sudeten Germans?

Answer: While in exile I have been trying for cooperation between the Czechs and Sudeten Germans since the beginning of 1947. I cannot state that I have always received a positive reaction from the Sudeten Germans. It is necessary under all circumstances that not only the Czechs, but also the Sudeten Germans -- or as some say, the Germans of the Bohemian countries, must overcome the exaggerated nationalism and the reminiscence. The situation must be judged from the realistic point of view. Close cooperation with the Sudeten Germans would not only be an advantage toward our common goal, but would also be documentation of our European outlook. Attempts and preparations were taken, in this respect, but mostly only platonically. Here I want to refer to my interview in the newspaper, "Volksbote", dated 20 December 1949, where I declared that the same way that the Munich Agreement lost its "raison d'etre" (justification for existence) after Hitler's defeat, the Potsdam agreement will lose its "raison d'etre", after the defeat of Communism. The direction of today's American policy confirms this. We are the ones who first supported the Sudeten Germans in their own country, and their right for their own leadership and national existence. This is surely a basis for the best relations. (B-3)

During the period 27 March 1953 to 5 June 1953, the files of the following Austrian agencies were checked concerning SUBJECT and personalities mentioned in CGO Intercept L/P 28809, dated 6 March 1953, with negative results:

Vienna Central Police Registry
Austrian State Police
Austrian Penal Registry
Austrian Alien Registry

NSDAP Central Registry
Vienna Vice and Prostitute Squad
Austrian Health Office
Austrian Ministry of Interior (C-3)

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CIS; Suspected CIS Activities
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On 22 May 1953, the British Field Security Office in Graz, Austria, made a check of the address of M. A. Kirchner, presumably the originator of the referenced CCG Intercept, and revealed that at Leonhardstrasse 62, Graz, Austria, there are no private residences, but that the Urenheim Convent is situated there. Attempts to identify SUBJECT and his alleged associates met with negative results. (B-3)

The files of this Sub-Detachment were checked on 5 June 1953 and revealed the following information:

AR/V-30228, dated 4 May 1950, Operation Bargain/Episode, Re: Witnessed statement by Olga Boser on Anton Kubesch in which Olga Boser stated that at one time Anton Kubesch told Boser that Kubesch, a Czech agent and a (fnn) Bodinger, who represents the ethnic Germans in Vienna, held a meeting in the Soviet Sector of Vienna. Kubesch also remarked that had Bodinger been alone, Kubesch would have had him arrested by the Soviets, because they are very much interested in him. (F-6)

V-MOIC, dated 17 October 1945, Subject: Thaler, Dr. Fritz, Vienna I, Franz Josefaki 65, mentions that one (fnn) Havlicek endorsed and countersigned a certificate indicating that Dr. Fritz Thaler was active in turning over the city of Vienna to the Soviets in 1945. (F-6)

The files contain numerous reports on various Havliceks, most of whom are in some way connected with the KPO, either in Vienna or in the CSR.

THX #251510, dated 21 January 1953, indicates that one Karel Steinhardt, a refugee from the CSR, was screened and evacuated by air to US zone, Austria (Lins), on 21 January 1953. (B-2)

Refugee Transmittal Report, C-669-52, dated 24 December 1952, contains biographical data on one Karel Steinhardt, born 16 March 1916 in Brno, CSR. (F-6)

Agent's Notes: It is strongly possible that the above-mentioned Steinhardt and the one mentioned in the early part of this report, Re: Mrs. Pekelaky's statement to Source 1801, in which she states that Karel Cvrk aka Steinhardt is now working for CIC, Lins, are one and the same person.

AR/V-24784, dated 9 October 1951, Subject: Brown, Bohumil Dr., Suspected CIS Agent, mentions one Dr. Klimovic as the representative of the Prohala Group (a group of Czechs in exile in England). (F-6)

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The files contain many reports, Re: Operation Bargain/Episode, in which one Dr. Klimovic is mentioned as a smuggler of refugees across the GSR-Austro border, a fabricator of intelligence information, and allegedly having contact with CIS activities.

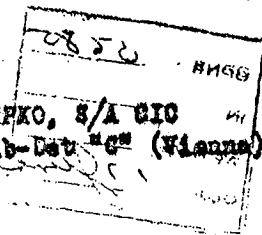
AR 2-9450, dated 29 January 1951, Subject: "Sveboda (Swoboda) Milos, Intelligence Operative", mentions that Vladimir Pekelsky and Karl Kramer, both Czech refugees who tried to contact the Czech resistance group under General Prohala, contacted the CIC in Bad Reichenhall, Germany, for assistance. (P-6)

AR 2-15055, dated 6 October 1952, Subject: "Vltava, Jan", Re: Operation Bargain/Episode, indicates that during an interview with Vltava, by one Jarek, in the GSR, Jarek asked Vltava if he contacted one Pekelsky. Vltava answered that he did not contact Pekelsky because Pekelsky was not in good standing with the Prohala Group which Vltava wanted to penetrate. (P-6)

Agent's Notes: Further reference is made to S-14845, dated 17 September 1952, Subject: "Pekelsky's Activities", a copy of which is not in the files of this Sub-Detachment.

GID-13-0866, dated 5 January 1953, Subject: "List of Informants Dropped by Intelligence Agencies in US Zone of Germany and Austria", lists one Maria Theresa Pekelsky nee Blaschewitschka, aka Bertram, aka Blastovicka, who was dropped as an informant on 31 May 1952, for security reasons. (B-2)

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